

**RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION MAILED AUGUST 28, 2003**  
**Patent Application No. 09/734,432**

**In the ABSTRACT:**

On page 23, please amend the ABSTRACT as follows:

A passive biometric identification and authentication system is implemented. An index generation routine is performed which generates one or more indices. During ~~enrolment~~ enrollment indices are created and linked to the user's record and/or identity. Indices are generated so that in future readings of the same user, which are similar but not necessarily equal to the ~~enrolment~~ enrollment reading, at least one of the indices will be the same. Indices are also used to provide for additional privacy of the user's template.